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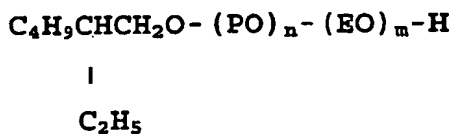
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(54) Title: AN ALKOXYLATE MIXTURE AND ITS USE AS A CLEANING AGENT FOR HARD SURFACES



(I)

(57) Abstract: The invention relates to an alkoxybate mixture having formula (I) where PO is a propyleneoxy unit, EO is an ethyleneoxy unit, n has an average value in the range 1.6 - 3.3 per 2-ethylhexyl group and m has an average value in the range 3.0 - 5.5 per 2-ethylhexyl group, and containing less than 1.5 % by weight of unreacted 2-ethylhexanol; the said mixture being obtained by reacting 2-ethylhexanol in a first step with propylene oxide and in a second step the propoxylated mixture obtained with ethylene oxide. The alkoxybate mixture is a good cleaning surfactant and wetting agent and is also readily biodegradable.

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